Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH:BA APPROVED BY AF/W-TWMSMITH

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P 241617Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 018513

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, FIN, BGEN, NI

SUBJECT: AIG CASE

- 1. MONROE, OF WHITE AND CASE, TELEPHONED AF/W JANUARY 23 TO ASK WHEN DANJUMA WOULD VISIT WASHINGTON. MONROE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO "GET AT" DANJUMA THROUGH THE US ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF AND MAKE SURE THAT DANJUMA WAS AWARE OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE REGARD THE AIG CASE AND, IN PARTICULAR, THAT AN INVOCATION OF THE HICKENLOOPER AMENDMENT WOULD PUT AN END TO MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIA
- 2. WE CAUTIONED MONROE TO PROCEED EXTREMELY CAREFULLY IN THIS AREA AND STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH US. WE COMMENTED THAT NIGERIA RECEIVES NO MILITARY ASSISTANCE FROM US AT PRESENT AND, ON THE CONTRARY, IS PROUD THAT IT IS ABLE TO BUY THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT IT REQUIRES. WE RECALLED THE NIGERIAN REACTION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CIVIL WAR, WHEN WE ANSWERED THEIR REQUEST TO PURCHASE AMMUNITION BY A PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT WE WOULD NOT PROVIDE MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO EITHER SIDE. CONFIDENTIAL

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- 3. WE OFFERED TO CHECK THIS IDEA WITH THE EMBASSY AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH MONROE.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS SOONEST ON ADVISABILITY OF RAISING AIG CASE WITH DANJUMA. IF THE EMBASSY THINKS THE IDEA HAS ANY

MERIT, WHO SHOULD RAISE IT AND WHAT POINTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

5. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT DANJUMA SEES HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AS PURELY MILITARY ONE AND THAT HE WOULD BE SURPRISED AND PERHAPS OFFENDED IF WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS OCCASION TO RAISE NON-MILITARY MATTER WITH HIM, EVEN SUCH AN IMPORTANT CASE AS THIS.

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TAGS: EINV, EFIN, BGEN, NI, (MONROE), (DANJUMA)

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